



SUPREME COURT OF KENTUCKY

SUSAN STOKLEY CLARY

CLERK

GENERAL COUNSEL

COURT ADMINISTRATOR

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 235
700 CAPITOL AVENUE
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601

PHONE 502-564-4176
FAX 502-564-2665
www.courts.ky.gov

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: SUSAN STOKLEY CLARY
(502) 564-5444

**SUPREME COURT OF KENTUCKY
CONDUCTS LAW DAY CELEBRATION IN
THE CHAMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

FRANKFORT – The Supreme Court of Kentucky and Kentucky's newest attorneys will join communities and states nationwide celebrating Law Day at the Kentucky State Capitol in the Chamber of the House of Representatives on Monday, May 1, at 10:00 a.m.

"Freedom under law is like the air we breathe," declared President Dwight D. Eisenhower in a speech made to celebrate the first Law Day, May 1, 1958. He proclaimed it to be a "day of dedication to the principle of government under law...." In April 1961, Congress and President John F. Kennedy proclaimed the first of May each year as Law Day, U.S.A.

Today, as then, Law Day offers Americans an opportunity to reaffirm their loyalty to the United States of America and to rededicate themselves to the ideals of equality and justice under law in their relations with each other as well as with other nations.

Kentucky's Law Day ceremonies, hosted by the Supreme Court of Kentucky, will begin at 10:00 a.m., on Monday. Chief Justice John D. Minton, Jr. will open the special court session.

Professor Allison Connelly, University of Kentucky College of Law, will make remarks and will receive, "the Liberty Bell Award," for her service to the Court of Justice and the Commonwealth.

Following Professor Connelly's remarks, a swearing-in ceremony for 150 new attorneys will be conducted. Honorable R. Michael Sullivan, President of the Kentucky Bar Association, will make remarks and present the new attorneys to the assemblage. Mrs. Susan Stokley Clary, Clerk of the Supreme Court, will administer the Constitutional Oath.

END

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Professor Allison Connelly, University of Kentucky College of Law

Allison Connelly, a clinical professor of law, joined the faculty in 1996 as the first Director of the College's Legal Clinic. Prior to joining the law school, she spent thirteen years as a state public defender providing direct representation, including death penalty representation, to needy individuals at all levels of the criminal justice system. She rose through the ranks to become the only woman ever named as Kentucky's Public Advocate, the head of Kentucky's statewide public defender system. Professor Connelly also has numerous published appellate decisions to her credit, including *Commonwealth v. Chestnut*, 250 S.W.3d 655 (Ky. 2008), a major open records case. She received her B.A. degree from the University of Kentucky and her J.D. degree from the University of Kentucky College of Law.

Professor Connelly also teaches litigation skills, criminal procedure, criminal trial process and legal writing, and is the Director of the Kentucky Legal Education Opportunity (KLEO) Summer Institute. She is the founder of the Kentucky Intrastate Mock Trial Competition, and is also the coach of the College's highly successful trial teams, which include eleven nationally ranked trial teams in the last nineteen years. She has received numerous awards for teaching and public service including the 2016 Duncan Teaching Award, 2016 University of Kentucky's Lyons Award for Public Service, the 2015 Kentucky Bar Association's Donated Legal Services Award, the 2011 Kentucky Bar Association's Service to Young Lawyers Award, and the 2009 UK Alumni Association Great Teacher Award.

Education

- B.A., University of Kentucky (1980)
- J.D., University of Kentucky College of Law (1983)

END